

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8389

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 6705

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UK XA RH YO

SUBJ: THE BRITS, THE YUGOSLAVS AND AFRICA

1. UK EMBASSY HAS INFORMED US THAT FOREIGN SECRETARY ANTHONY CROSLAND WILL BE VISITING BELGRADE NOV 2 TO 5. YUGOSLAVS HAVE YET TO TAKE A FIRM STAND ON ZIMBABWE ISSUES. BUT FACT THEY GOT OUT AHEAD OF NEARLY ALL AFRICAN AND NONALIGNED COUNTRIES IN SUPPORTING AND RECOGNIZING MPLA PLUS THEIR GENERAL INCLINATION TO AID MOST MILITANT AND MARXIST GROUP GIVES REASON FOR CONCERN. THROUGH NONALIGNED THEY HAVE A CERTAIN CAPACITY FOR DAMAGE FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW. AT SAME TIME THERE IS A PROCLIVITY ON BRITISH SIDE TO SEE YUGOSLAVS SOLELY IN EUROPEAN EAST-WEST CONTEXT AND TO BE OVERLY SOLICITOUS OF YUGOSLAV MISDEEDS IN REST OF WORLD. BELIEVE SCHAUFLE COULD USEFULLY SPEND FIVE MINUTES WITH ROWLANDS OR RICHARD EMPHASIZING IMPORTANCE OF CROSLAND MAKING CLEAR TO YUGOSLAVS, AS USG HAS REPEATEDLY DONE, THAT WE ARE WATCHING THEIR ACTIONS CLOSELY IN AFRICA TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY ARE A RESPONSIBLE PARTNER WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH ON SENSITIVE ISSUES OR WHETHER THEY ALWAYS LINE UP ON THE ANTI-WESTERN SIDE.

SILBERMAN

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